

A MUSEUM, HISTORY AND GARDENS!

Montreal, April 10, 2014 – New France bursts into bloom every year at **Maison Saint-Gabriel**. The museum site, the **Farmhouse garden**, its vegetable patch and the **Sharecroppers' garden** fill with scents and colour with numerous vegetables, herbs and flowers, some of which grew there 350 years ago.

A leap into history

Within this enchanting historical context, craftspeople, performers and musicians share the site with scented, aromatic and medicinal plants. This alchemy allows each visitor to experience the time of Marguerite Bourgeoys and the King's Wards. Rural life of the 17th century in the heart of a modern city!

The colours and scents amplify the marvel of strolling through greenery and time. For ardent fans, lectures and guided tours are offered every Sunday of the summer. Saturday afternoons are dedicated to medicinal plants, with the **apothecary**. The apothecary of days gone by (personified by Ubert Sanspré dit Beloeil) and herbalists of today will be on hand in the garden to talk with you about using plants for medicinal purposes.

A well-filled basket in the Farmhouse garden

Turnips, rutabaga, cabbage, Jerusalem artichoke, salsify, carrots, beets, beans, onions and leeks grow in orderly beds decorated with nasturtiums, roses and other colourful flowers. This garden is a pleasure for the eyes and the nose, with the scent of thyme and lavender.

The Sharecroppers' garden

This garden, through which visitors enter the museum, evokes 300 years of history in a theme-based manner, from the clearing of the land to the time of large crops, followed by the subdivision that led to urbanization. It honours the women who, over the centuries directed the former farm of the Congrégation de Notre-Dame.

Never before has a museum brought history, the daily life of the past and living and nourishing nature together so accurately. **This oasis of serenity is a member of the Association des Jardins du Québec and the VIA Rail Garden Route.** Maison Saint-Gabriel is the ideal place to cultivate the land and knowledge.

From May 8 to December 21, 2014, Maison Saint-Gabriel will present ***Starting a family***, an exhibit that tells how, over the last four centuries, motherhood and family were at the heart of most women's concerns.

Maison Saint-Gabriel is located at 2146 Place Dublin, in Pointe-Saint-Charles, near Marguerite-Bourgeoys Park (Wellington St.) less than five minutes by car from Vieux-Montréal or the Charlevoix metro station (Bus 57 east). Guided tours are offered in French and English, Tuesday through Sunday. The museum is closed on Monday.

www.maisonsaint-gabriel.qc.ca
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